

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-10 EUR-12 OES-09 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08  
IO-13 L-03 DOE-15 SOE-02 SAS-02 /124 W  
-----085762 042111Z /14-L

R 032052Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6831  
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ//SCJ2-AD//

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 6022

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, ENRG, TECH, AR  
SUBJECT: US POLICY & NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH ARGENTINA

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 5756 (B) STATE 191795 (C) BUENOS AIRES 5926

1. HIGH CNEA OFFICIALS INCLUDING CASTRO MADERO AND JORGE COLL FOR THE FIRST TIME INDICATED TO EMBASSY SCI COUNS LAST WEEK THEIR CONCERN THAT THE US IS TIGHTENING THE SCREWS FURTHER ON ARGENTINA BECAUSE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, AND THAT THIS COULD HAVE THE IMPLICATION OF IMPAIRING UNCLEAR COOPERATION. THEY FEEL THAT THE US POLICY IS CONFUSING AND FRUSTRATING, PARTICULARLY AFTER ARGENTINA HAS LIVED UP TO ITS COMMITMENT TO THE US BY ANNOUNCING THE RATIFICATION OF TLAELOLCO AND INTENTION OF ACCEPTING FULL SCOPE SAFEGUARDS. COLL EMPHASIZED THAT US COOPERATION IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD IS OF HIGH IMPORTANCE TO ARGENTINA, BUT THE LATEST US POLICY, FOR EXAMPLE THE EXIM BANK DECISION, IS HAVING THE EFFECT OF PUSHING THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE, WHO ARE FRIENDS OF THE US, FURTHER INTO ISOLATION FROM THE US TO THE EXTENT THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE, AS IN THE PAST, COULD BE SERIOUSLY THREATENED.  
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THEY HOPED THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE THE CASE. IN FACT, IN CONNECTION WITH THE CNEA REQUEST FOR 37.5 KILOS OF 20 PERCENT ENRICHED URANIUM (REFTEL A) AND OTHER RELATED COOPERATION, CNEA WOULD BE INTERESTED IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REVISED NUCLEAR AGREEMENT AS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED PREVIOUSLY. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO CNEA OFFICIALS THAT THE US RECOGNIZED

ARGENTINA'S LEAD IN THE NUCLEAR FIELD IN LATIN AMERICA AND AS A SUPPLIER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND ENCOURAGED ARGENTINA'S COOPERATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE CIVIL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY. IN ADDITION, REGARDING TLATELOLCO AND FULL SCOPE SAFEGUARDS, WE WERE PERFECTLY WILLING TO MOVE AHEAD WITH CNEA AND MFA CONCERNING THE DISCUSSION AND EXAMINATION OF FURTHER PROSPECTS OF COOPERATION CONSIDERING ARGENTINE AND US MUTUAL INTERESTS.

2. COMMENTS. THE ABOVE COMMENTS WERE MADE BEFORE EMBASSY RECEIVED REFTEL B AND BEFORE WE HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE CONTENTS WITH CNEA AOR MFA OFFICIALS. SCI COUNS ALSO HAS APPOINTMENTS THIS WEEK WITH MFA OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS STATUS OF TLATELOLCO TREATY. WE INTEND TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS WITH CNEA AND MFA OFFICIALS OVER THE NEXT TWO OR THREE MONTHS TO ENDEAVOR TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR EVENTUAL TALKS ON A NEW NUCLEAR AGREEMENT. THESE DISCUSSIONS WILL INCLUDE REVIEWING AND ASSESSING THE MODEL AGREEMENT FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS IS NOT ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE FOR ARGENTINA AT THIS POINT. IT SEEMS TO US THAT NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH ARGENTINA CAN ONLY HELP SERVE OUR WORLDWIDE NON-PROLIFERATION INTERESTS BY MAINTAINING A CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE AND ALLOWING OUR CLOSE CONTACTS WITH OFFICIALS, SCIENTISTS, CONFIDENTIAL

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AND FACILITIES TO CONTINUE.  
CASTRO

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Review Markings:**  
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